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1. (currently amended) An interactive television (ITV), comprising:

a housing;

a television tuner in the housing;

a microprocessor associated with the tuner;

a user input device communicating with the microprocessor;

a memory system communicating with the microprocessor, the memory system storing user data and virtual channels, the user data being at least partially based on signals received from the user input device; and

a computer communication device connected to the microprocessor and to a computer network,

the ~~one~~ virtual channels in the memory system being updated in accordance with data received from the communication device, the virtual channels being established at least partially based on the user data, wherein the ITV receives content of the virtual channels in the vertical blanking interval of a television signal. in the event of an update, only updated portions of a Web page corresponding to the virtual channel are downloaded.

2. (canceled).
3. (original) The ITV of Claim 1, wherein the virtual channels are Web pages.
4. (original) The ITV of Claim 1, wherein the microprocessor is in the housing or in a set-top box separate from the housing.

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5. (original) The ITV of Claim 4, further comprising a data bus communicating with the microprocessor, memory system, and TV tuner, the microprocessor correlating channel numbers with virtual channels.

6. (original) The ITV of Claim 1, further comprising an electronic channel guide displayed on the ITV, the virtual channels being listed by channel number and by name on the electronic channel guide.

7-22 (canceled).

23. (new) An interactive television (ITV), comprising:

a television tuner;

a microprocessor associated with the tuner;

a user input device communicating with the microprocessor;

a memory system communicating with the microprocessor, the memory system storing virtual channels; and

a computer communication device connected to the microprocessor and to a computer network,

wherein the microprocessor displays an electronic channel guide, the virtual channels being listed at the end of the guide after TV channels.

24. (new) The ITV of Claim 23, wherein the microprocessor is in a TV housing or in a set-top box separate from the housing.

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25. (new) The ITV of Claim 23, further comprising a data bus communicating with the microprocessor, memory system, and TV tuner, the microprocessor correlating channel numbers with virtual channels.

26. (new) An interactive television (ITV), comprising:

a television tuner;

a modem communicating with the microprocessor;

a microprocessor associated with the tuner;

a mixer;

a user input device communicating with the microprocessor;

a memory system communicating with the microprocessor, the memory system storing virtual channels; and

a computer communication device connected to the microprocessor and to a computer network,

wherein the mixer mixes a Web-based signal from the modem with related signals from the tuner such that Web-based content of a virtual channel is combined with an actual broadcast newscast from a TV station associated with the Web-based content for simultaneous display of thereof.

27. (new) The ITV of Claim 26, wherein the microprocessor is in a TV housing or in a set-top box separate from the housing.

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28. (new) The ITV of Claim 26, further comprising a data bus communicating with the microprocessor, memory system, and TV tuner, the microprocessor correlating channel numbers with virtual channels.

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